

MATT WAGNER

DYNAMITE 2

THE Shadow

YEAR ONE



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THE

Shadow

YEAR
ONE



SAMWEE '12
MW

**WAGNER
TORRES**



MATT WAGNER

DYNAMITE 2

THE Shadow

YEAR ONE



THE *Shadow*[®]

YEAR ONE

WRITTEN BY

MATT WAGNER

ART BY

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COLORS BY

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LETTERS BY

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HOWARD CHAYKIN (D)

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THE SHADOW CREATED BY

WALTER B. GIBSON

DYNAMITE

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SUCH
DEMANDS...I
MAKE ONLY
ONCE!

**DO NOT
CONSIDER THEM
LIGHTLY!**

I WILL NEVER FORGET MY
FIRST TIME HEARING...
THAT VOICE!

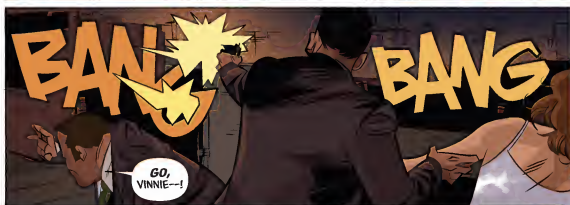
SO...**COLD**. SO...**RUTHLESS**.
AS IF ORDINARY HUMAN
SPEECH...HAD A **SHADOW!**



WHAT TH--?!
WHO D'HELL IS
DIS GUY?!

BEATS ME. HE
AIN'T A **DICK**,
THOUGH...

TOO, UHH...
CREEPY!





THE LAUGH...

THE HELL
IS THAT?!

JEEEEZUS!
IT...IT'S GOTTA BE
HIM! B-BUT...
WHERE--?!



DUNNO HOW
HE DODGED DOSE
ROUNDS...BUT HE'S
STILL HERE!

TOLD
YA...HE'S A
CREEP!

I HAVE NEVER
GOTTEN USED TO THE
LAUGH. EVEN AFTER
ALL THOSE TIMES
I'VE BEEN SO VERY
GLAD TO HEAR IT!



ALRIGHT,
ASSHOLE! PLAY
TIME'S OVER!
BEAT IT! OR
WE'LL--

THE LAUGH
IS DEVOID OF
MIRTH...AND
LACKING ALL
COMPASSION.



→KCHT←

IF THE DEVIL EVER
HAD A LAUGH...I'M SURE
HE WANTS IT BACK!





AAAAEEEEEE!

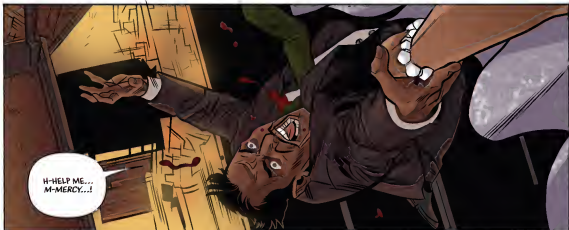
FELT ITS AWFUL
BREATH AS IT
THREATENED TO
CONSUME ME.



AAEGHH!

IN *THAT* MOMENT,
LIFE AS I HAD KNOWN
IT CHANGED UTTERLY.

AND I ENTERED A
WORLD OF SHADOWS.







ALRIGHT, FOLKS...MOVE ALONG. NOTHING TO SEE...

HOWDY, INSPECTOR. SORRY TO DRAG YA OUT SO LATE.

HOW COME YOU NEED *ME* ON THE SCENE, MICKY? A JUMPER'S NOT A HOMICIDE.



MAYBE SO... BUT HOW 'BOUT A JUMPER WITH THREE BLOODY SLUGS IN HIS CHEST?!

YEEEAH... *THAT* QUALIFIES! ANY IDEA WHICH BUILDING HE GOT TUMBLED FROM?

WE THINK IT WAS *THIS* ONE...ON THE CORNER.

WE FOUND *ANOTHER* STIFF IN THE BACK ALLEY, SHOT RIGHT THROUGH THE THROAT!

SOMEBODY PLUGGED THEM BOTH AND THEN JUST HEAVED THEM RIGHT OFF THE SIDE...LIKE THEY WAS DUMPIN' TRASH!



ALRIGHT, I WANT A SWEEP OF THAT BUILDING...ALL O' THE WINDOWS AND *ESPECIALLY* THE ROOF!

'FRAID YOU WAS GONNA SAY THAT. UH...THAT'S THE *COBALT CLUB!* Y'KNOW...COMMISSIONER WESTON'S FAVORITE HAUNT?

TOUGH SHIT. MAYBE HE CAN DO A LITTLE *POLICE* WORK FOR ONCE...STEAD'A PADDIN' HIS *POLITICAL* CAREER!



RELAX, JACOB! I'M QUITE CERTAIN THIS STOCK MARKET "CRASH" IS MERELY JUST A DIP IN THE ROAD! NOTHING TO GET **TOO** EXCITED ABOUT...

WHAT THE **CITY COUNCIL** REALLY NEEDS TO FOCUS ON IS LOWERING THE INTER-BOROUGH **TAX RATES!**

WELL, I DON'T KNOW--

OH, I WOULDN'T BE SO **SURE** ON THIS DOWNTURN'S LACK OF EFFECT, COMMISSIONER.

HARD TIMES LEAD TO DESPAIR AND THE ALLURE OF **CRIME** BECOMES **ALL TOO SWEET** FOR THOSE STRICKEN BY POVERTY.

EVEN THE WELL-TO-DO OFTIMES FIND IT HARD TO RESIST THEIR...**DARKER** NATURES.



AH, **CRANSTON**. WHERE DID YOU **DISAPPEAR** OFF TO?



SOMETHING REQUIRED **TIDYING...**

I SHOULD SUPPOSE THAT THIS STATE OF MISFORTUNE WILL ONLY **STRENGTHEN** THE GANGS WHO PROFIT FROM **PROHIBITION**, YES?

SURELY, THEIR FOUL INFLUENCE WILL ONLY FESTER AND GROW...**UNCHECKED** BY **ANY** AUTHORITY, IT SEEMS! PITY.



WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST WE DO, CRANSTON? CORDONE OFF LITTLE ITALY, CHINATOWN AND HELL'S KITCHEN WITH SOME FENCE POSTS AND CHICKEN WIRE?!

HAH! GOOD ONE, RALPHIE!







I REMEMBER FLOATING IN AN
INDIGO HAZE, BORNE BY ARMS
AS HARD AS STEEL RODS.

AND THAT VOICE...
NO LONGER CRUEL.
CALMING.



ALMOST... SEDUCTIVE.

WHA--?!
WH-WHERE
AM I?!



EVENIN', MISS.
GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE
WITH US AGAIN.

H-HOW
DID I GET...IN
THIS CAB?!

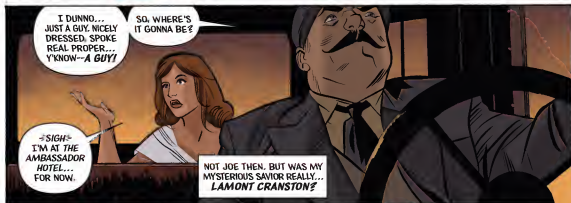


TALL. FELLA... TOLD
ME YOU'D HAD A BIT TOO
MUCH O' THE HOOCH. SAID
TO DRIVE AROUND 'TIL YOU
WOKE UP AND THEN TAKE
YOU WHEREVER YOU
WANTED TO GO.

WHAT
MAN? WHO
WAS HE?!

HOW
SHOULD I
KNOW?!

WHAT DID
HE LOOK
LIKE?!



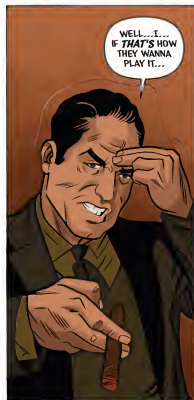
I DUNNO...
JUST A GUY, NICELY
DRESSED. SPOKE
REAL PROPER...
Y'KNOW--A GUY!

SO, WHERE'S
IT GONNA BE?!

~SIGH~
I'M AT THE
AMBASSADOR
HOTEL...
FOR NOW.

NOT JOE THEN. BUT WAS MY
MYSTERIOUS SAVIOR REALLY...
LAMONT CRANSTON?!









SO...IT'S NOT
THE COBALT CLUB
THIS EVENING.



OH MAN...
HERE AGAIN?!



AND...JUST
LIKE THAT—
HE'S GONE!



CRIMINY!
WHAT IS IT ABOUT
THIS PLACE?

SEEMS PRETTY
UNREMARKABLE.
CORNER OF
7TH AND 23RD...



OKAY, JOEY...
THAT'S THE
LAST OF IT.

RIGHT. TELL
CUNNINGHAM THAT NEXT
WEEK WE NEED SIXTY
MORE CASES OF BOTH
GIN AND RUM.



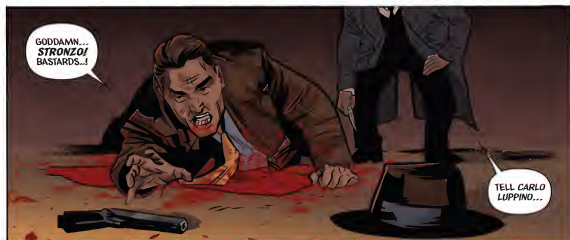
YOUSE CAN
DELIVER THE
EXTRA SAUCE
ALRIGHT...



...BUT Y'GONNA
FIND A **DIFFERENT**
TEAM ON DECK FOR
DELIVERY!



HEEEY...THE
HELL IS **THIS?** AIN'T YOU
ONE'A MASSERETTI'S? WE
GOT NO BEEF WIT--





MISS LANE, I'M THE HOTEL MANAGER. I'M VERY SORRY TO INFORM YOU. BUT THE TAB ON THIS SUITE HAS EXPIRED.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD THE DAILY RATE THEN I'M AFRAID I MUST ASK YOU TO...
MOVE ON.

THAT'S ALRIGHT. I... I KNEW TODAY WAS THE LAST. I'M ALL PACKED AND READY.



I WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO SUMMON YOU A CAB. WHERE IS YOUR NEXT DESTINATION?

WELL, I... THAT IS... I DON'T QUITE KN—

WAIT... YES! HAVE THE BELLMAN TAKE MY LUGGAGE DOWN.

BUT FIRST... MIGHT I BORROW A COPY OF THE TRI-STATE SOCIAL REGISTER?

IN THE MANY YEARS SINCE THEN...



...I'VE OFTEN TRIED
TO ASCERTAIN **WHAT**
LED HIM TO THIS
DARK CAMPAIGN.



TYPICALLY
TIGHT-LIPPED, HE
WAS EVER SCANT
ON DETAILS.



SCHK



HE WOULD ONLY ALLUDE
TO A HORRIBLY MISGUIDED
LIFE, FOR WHICH HE HAD
MUCH TO ATONE.



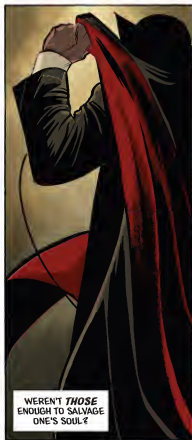
IN MY NAÏVETÉ--OR
WAS IT MY METHODIST
UPBRINGING...?



I ASKED WHETHER
A CRUSADE TO
PURGE THE WORLD
OF CRIME WAS THE
ONLY WAY.



REPENTANCE,
AND THE DESIRE
FOR FORGIVENESS.



WEREN'T **THOSE**
ENOUGH TO SALVAGE
ONE'S SOUL?



HE SNEERED AT
SUCH A TRITE AND
EASY SOLUTION.

IN FACT, HE FOUND
THE VERY IDEA...
HILARIOUS.



to be continued

DYNAMITE®

IN THE NEWS - APRIL 2013

**SIMONE TO WRITE ONGOING
RED SONJA SERIES!**



Dynamite is delighted to announce that the one and only Gail Simone is taking on RED SONJA with a brand-new #1 issue launching this July - in time for San Diego Comic Con! Gail Simone - one of the premiere writers in the comics industry, is best known for DC's *Birds of Prey*, *Secret Six*, and especially *Batgirl*! Walter Geovani will join her, as the interior artist. Covers will be drawn by some of the top female artists in comics today! We are extremely fortunate to have Nicola Scott, Colleen Doran, Jenny Frison, Stephanie Buscema, Fiona Staples on covers, with more high profile female cover artists to be announced! Fans will definitely want to pick up Gail Simone's RED SONJA #1 this July!

To help kick off the celebration of Gail's take on The She-Devil with a Sword, Dynamite is proud to give away, to all Emerald City fans, limited edition prints featuring art from the upcoming Nicola Scott covers! These limited edition, high-end prints are sure to be highly sought after collectibles, and are being given away to fans for free, as premium prints, to be signed by Gail herself at Emerald City Comic Con, to rev up for the launch in July

To discuss this and more, log onto the Dynamite forums at
WWW.DYNAMITE.COM/BOARDS

"It's like this...even most of the best female heroines when I was a kid were pretty polite. What I love about Sonja is that she isn't polite, she says what she means and if you give her any lip about it, hello, sword in the gut. She's smart, she has a heart, she has some compassion. But when it's go time, she's a hellraiser, a mad general, she's a sword edge virtuosa, she's death on wheels. She is the woman you never want to mess with. I can relate, Sonja. No offense to all her guy writers, but THIS Red Sonja is about sex and swords! It's everything you love about Red Sonja, except with more monsters getting stabbed in the eye."

"Words can't even express how excited I am to have Gail Simone, one of the premiere writers in all of comics, write RED SONJA, a character she was born to work on. Fans will see in the first issue that she really cuts in to the heart of the character...," says Dynamite Entertainment CEO/Publisher Nick Barrucci. "I have wanted to work with Gail for years, and it's incredibly exciting that her first choice in working with us is Sonja. A strong-willed female with fiery red hair writing about a strong-willed female with fiery red hair - AND A SWORD! It is a dream come true that this project has finally come to fruition! Gail and Sonja's will be the blades that cut the deepest to her enemies' chagrin!"

Gail Simone got her start in comics writing for Bongo Comics, home of *The Simpsons*. Following her time there, Simone entered the mainstream comics world with a run on Marvel Comics' *Deadpool*, and later, *Agent X*. Gail is best known for known for runs on DC's *Birds of Prey*, *Secret Six*, *Welcome to Tranquility*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Batgirl*.

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NEXT ISSUE:



ISSUE #3

Bear witness to the first time that The Shadow ever donned his costume in action! When mobsters meet in secret at a meatpacking warehouse, they become the unfortunate first criminals to see the Master of Men's unsettling form. Will any survive the ensuing carnage to warn their master? Plus, Margo Lane and the debut of The Shadow's ultimate nemesis!

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FEATURED REVIEWS

THE SHADOW: YEAR ONE #1 (COMIC BOOK BIN):

"The story jumps right in and feels at home in the pulp world, setting up several plot threads that will deepen the hero's mythos. Wagner definitely left me feeling impatient as I wait for #2. I'd say that is a mission accomplished."

THE SHADOW: YEAR ONE #1 (GEEKS OF DOOM):

"There's nothing not to love about this comic book! I applaud Dynamite for handling this book so well and bringing on exceptional talent for this very important mini series. The boys are pouring extra love into the pulp characters that are part of Dynamite's stable of characters."

DARK SHADOWS #14 (MAJOR SPOILERS):

"Action-packed spookiness... A wise purchase."

THE SHADOW: YEAR ONE #1 (SCIFIPULSE.NET):

"Just when you think the Year One concept has been done to death, a comic appears to remind you that it's not dead if it's done well. I say welcome to The Shadow: Year One."

DEJAH THORIS AND THE GREEN MEN OF MARS #1 (SCIFIPULSE.NET):

"A decent start up with solid visuals. I want to see what's next!"

THE SPIDER VOL. 1: TERROR OF THE ZOMBIE QUEEN (COMICS ATTACK):

"Not only the best book on the shelves right now, but it quite possibly is the best in the past few years."

SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE LIVERPOOL DEMON #2 (UNLEASH THE FANBOY):

"The Liverpool Demon continues to be a very good Sherlock Holmes read. Longtime fans can enjoy another good story with a new take on the title character while whole new readers can read what could be their first Holmes story. Either way, you can't go wrong. The mystery is just getting started." VAMPIRELLA STRIKES #3
(UNLEASH THE FANBOY):

"From the first page to the last panel, (writer Tom Sniegoski) effortlessly charts a fun romp..."

BIONIC MAN #17 (GEEKS OF DOOM):

"It's got plenty of action, super heroics, intrigue, and is just plain entertaining. A perfect jumping-on point!"

A SPECIAL LOOK AT MARK WAID'S GREEN HORNET #1!

WE LIVE IN THE AGE OF INFORMATION.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS THAT WAY.

BACK BEFORE YOU COULD WHIP OUT YOUR SMARTPHONE TO SETTLE ANY BAR BET.



Daily Sentinel

• FINAL

Thursday, October 16, 1941

THREE CENTS PAY NO MORE

MAYOR REFUSES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

**ITS PUBLISHER ON A WHIM
AND WITH THE RIGHT
HEADLINE, COULD TURN A
GOOD SAMARITAN INTO
A HERO--OR UTTERLY
CRIPPLE A CORRUPT
POLITICIAN**



AND I TOOK IT
SERIOUSLY.



AS **BRITT REID**, I USED
THE SENTINEL RELENTLESSLY
TO WAGE **WAR** AGAINST
MY ENEMIES.

...BUT IT WAS
HARDLY THE ONLY
ASSET AT MY
DISPOSAL.

SOMETHING
INTERESTING
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS,
KATO?

A CODED
MESSAGE FOR YOU
FROM **WATERFRONT**
EDDIE. IT SAYS PIER
23 WILL BE ACTIVE
TONIGHT.



I HAD **INSPIRATION**.
MY **GREAT-UNCLE**
WAS A DARING AND
RESOURCEFUL MASKED
RIDER IN THE OLD WEST



I HAD **MONEY**.
MY FATHER HAD
LEFT ME HIS
FORTUNE...

THEN
LET'S
GO.



...WHICH I USED
TO BUILD A
HIDDEN LAIR...

WE
HAVE **WORK**
TO DO.



...A UNIQUE ARSENAL...

SUIT UP WHILE I RUN A WEAPONS TEST.



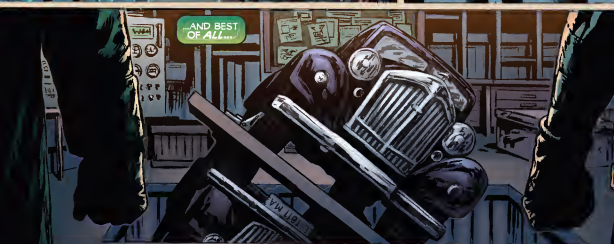
KNOCKOUT GAS, CHECK.



ELECTROSTUN, CHECK.

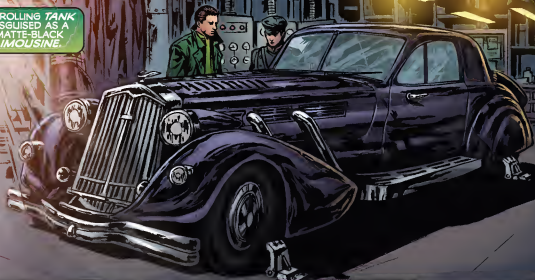


BRING THE CAR AROUND.



...AND BEST OF ALL...

...A ROLLING **TANK**
DISGUISED AS A
MATTE-BLACK
LIMOUSINE.



LET'S
ROLL.

"BEST OF ALL"?
SCRATCH THAT.
EDIT IT. I
BURIED THE
LEAD. REWRITE.

BEST OF
ALL...



I HAD A JAPANESE VALET
WHOSE MASTERY OF
SOMETHING CALLED THE
"MARTIAL ARTS" MADE HIM
A MATCH FOR ANY FIVE
MEN. MAYBE TEN.



USING ALL OF THESE
RESOURCES AND
MORE, I BECAME THE
GREEN HORNET...





THE WORLD'S FIRST
SUPER-CRIMINAL.



THE STING

Written by Mark Waid
Pencils by Daniel Indro
Inks by Márcio Menyz
Letters by Troy Peteri
Edits by Joe Rybandt

MARK WAID'S GREEN HORNET #1 - IN STORES NOW!

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A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT THE SHADOW YEAR ONE #2 FROM MATT WAGNER'S SCRIPT TO WILFREDO TORRES' LINE ART AND BRENNAN WAGNER'S COLORS

PAGE ONE

1) SPLASH PANEL—Extreme close-up and foreshortening of The Shadow's gun pointing right at the reader, framed by the splash of his red bandana and his glowering eyes in the background.

SHADOW: SUCH DEMANDS...I MAKE ONLY ONCE!

[Black balloon,

White copy] DO NOT CONSIDER THEM LIGHTLY!

CAPTION: I WILL NEVER FORGET MY FIRST TIME HEARING...THAT VOICE!

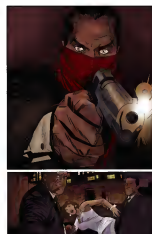
SO...COLD. SO...RUTHLESS. AS IF ORDINARY HUMAN SPEECH...HAD
A SHADOW!

2) THE TWO THUGS—are perplexed by The Shadow's unexpected interference; one of them grabs Margo by her wrist and hauls her to her feet.

THUG #1: WHAT TH—?! WHO D'HELL IS DIS GUY?!

THUG #2: BEATS ME. HE AIN'T A DICK, THOUGH...

TOO, UHH...CREEPY!



A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT THE SHADOW YEAR ONE #2 FROM MATT WAGNER'S SCRIPT TO WILFREDO TORRES' LINE ART AND BRENNAN WAGNER'S COLORS

PAGE TWO

1) ONE OF THEM—takes a step forward, his hands held up in a placating gesture;
BEHIND HIM, the other thug (still holding Margo's wrist in a tight grip) surreptitiously
begins to draw his gun from a shoulder holster.

THUG #1: HEY NOW, BUSTER...NO NEED TO GET SO EXCITED.

THIS HERE'S A PRIVATE MATTER AND, UNLESS YOUSE A COP...IT AIN'T
NO CONCERN OF YOURS!!

MARGO: OW! YOU'RE HURTING ME!

THUG #2: PIPE DOWN, SISTER.

2) THE SHADOW—levels his gun.

THE SHADOW: CRIME IS MY BUSINESS, FOOLS! SEEING IT SHAT-
TERED...IS MY CRUSADE!

STEP AWAY...OR DIE WHERE YOU STAND!

3) THE THUG—smiles.

THUG #1: OH. WELL.

SINCE YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT—

4) SUDDENLY—the front thug ducks down and to one side as the thug still holding
Margo fires two rounds at The Shadow.

THUG #1: GO, VINNIE—!

SFX: BANG! BANG!

5) BOTH THUGS—are stunned by the fact that their masked assailant...has mysteriously
vanished!

THUG #1: WHAT THE FUG IS DIS?! WHERE'D HE GO?!

THUG #2: I-I COULD'NTA MISSED!! I HAD HIM RIGHT... IN MY SIGHTS!!



A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT THE SHADOW YEAR ONE #2 FROM MATT WAGNER'S SCRIPT TO WILFREDO TORRES' LINE ART AND BRENNAN WAGNER'S COLORS

PAGE THREE

1) **SUDDENLY**—an eerie LAUGH ripples through the night air and both the thugs and Margo are frozen by its haunting echo.

SFX: HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

THUG #2: THE HELL IS THAT?!

THUG #1: JEEEEZUS! IT...IT'S GOTTA BE HIM! B-BUT...WHERE—?!

CAPTON: THE LAUGH...

2) **THE FIRST THUG**—draws his own gun as the other one wraps an arm tightly around Margo's neck from behind, using her as a human shield.

THUG #1: DUNNO HOW HE DODGED DOSE ROUNDS...BUT HE'S STILL HERE!

THUG #2: TOLD YA...HE'S A CREEP!

CAPTION: I HAVE NEVER GOTTEN USED TO THE LAUGH. EVEN AFTER ALL THOSE TIMES I'VE BEEN SO VERY GLAD TO HEAR IT!

3: **CROUCHING**—and brandishing his weapon, the first thug scans the shadows for sight of his enemy; **THE SECOND THUG** drags Margo backwards, closer to the roof ledge.

SFX: HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

THUG #1: ALRIGHT, ASSHOLE! PLAY TIME'S OVER!! BEAT IT! OR WE'LL—

CAPTION: THE LAUGH IS DEVOID OF MIRTH...AND LACKING ALL COMPASSION.

4) **A SINGLE SHOT**—catches the first thug in the neck, blasting his throat to bloody shards.

SFX: BANG!

THUG #1: KCHT—

CAPTION: IF THE DEVIL EVER HAD A LAUGH...I'M SURE HE WANTS IT BACK!



A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT THE SHADOW YEAR ONE #2 FROM MATT WAGNER'S SCRIPT TO WILFREDO TORRES' LINE ART AND BRENNAN WAGNER'S COLORS

PAGE FOUR

1) THE SHADOW—now steps back into sight and the remaining (freaked out) thug puts his gun to Margo's head and yanks her backwards hard, throwing her off-balance...and closer to the ledge.

SHADOW: YOU HAVE REFUSED MY COMMANDS! ALL YOU MAY DO NOW...IS DIE!

THUG #2: S-STAY BACK! I-I'LL PUT A BULLET IN DIS BITCH'S BRAIN!

I MEAN IT!!

MARGO: UNGH—!

2) SUDDENLY—Margo brings the heel of her shoe down hard on the arch of the Thug's foot.

SFX: KNCH

THUG #1: AAGGH!

3) MARGO MANAGES—to break free of the thug's grasp and the thug's chest erupts in three bloody bursts as shots echo through the night.

CAPTIONS: DESPITE MY WAYWARD LIFE OF THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS...

SFX: BANG! BANG! BANG!

4) REELING—the wounded thug manages to again grab hold of Margo's wrist.

MARGO: AAGH!

CAPTION: THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D BEEN SO NAKEDLY EXPOSED TO SUCH VIOLENCE.

